

# Domestic Geographic Name Report

1 Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544..

5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic  
Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, VA 22092

## Action Requested

Proposed New Name: X

Application Change:     

Name Change:     

Other:     

**Recommended Name:** Naqsrslugiaq Pass

**State:** Alaska

**County or Equivalent:** North Slope Borough

**Administrative Area:** Gates of the Arctic National Park

## Specific Area Covered:

Latitude: 68 03 47.79 N Longitude: 150 28 08.58 W (Center of area, WGS 84)

Meridian: Umiat Township: 16S, Range: 7E, Section: 11

Elevation 3500-3520 feet above sea level

**Type of Feature** (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Mountain Pass (Gap)

**Is the feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?**

Yes      No X      If **Yes**, how is it listed?

**Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):**

This approximately three-mile-long mountain pass is located on the Continental Divide in the Central Brooks Range, at the headwaters, between the Itkillik River and the North Fork Koyukuk River. It is located within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and is in the southern part of the North Slope Borough.

**Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date)**

N/A

**Other Name (Variants)**

No name is currently assigned by USGS or is known to be in use.

**Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date)**

N/A

---

**Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:**

From the proposal: This is an Inupiaq name known to area residents in the nearby village of Anaktuvuk Pass and has been called this for as long as anyone there can remember. This locality represents a several-mile stretch of the upper Ulu Valley from the mouth of Anmaguligaurak to Summit Lake. It is an area known for its sometimes difficult traveling conditions during winter. As the main valley narrows slightly, north winds funnel through here, increasing their velocity, often blowing the ground nearly free of snow and also contributing to escalated windchill factors. The name has been in use for centuries. Local language expert Charles Hugo, and Larry Kaplan at UAF were consulted for the name. This place occurs in a wilderness area within a national park. NPS has been consulted on the proposal and is in full support, given the long-lived usage of the name by local residents. This effort formally recognizes an existing name rather than creating a new one and is desirable given its long history of use by local residents and the safety benefits to aircraft travel.

---

**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes X No \_\_\_\_ If Yes, approximately how many years? Centuries

---

**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?**

There is no known opposition to the recommended name.

---

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:**

The U. S. Board of Geographic Names does not currently recognize a name for this feature.

---

**Additional Information:**

Letters of Recommendation for the proposal have been received from:

National Park Service  
Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation  
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

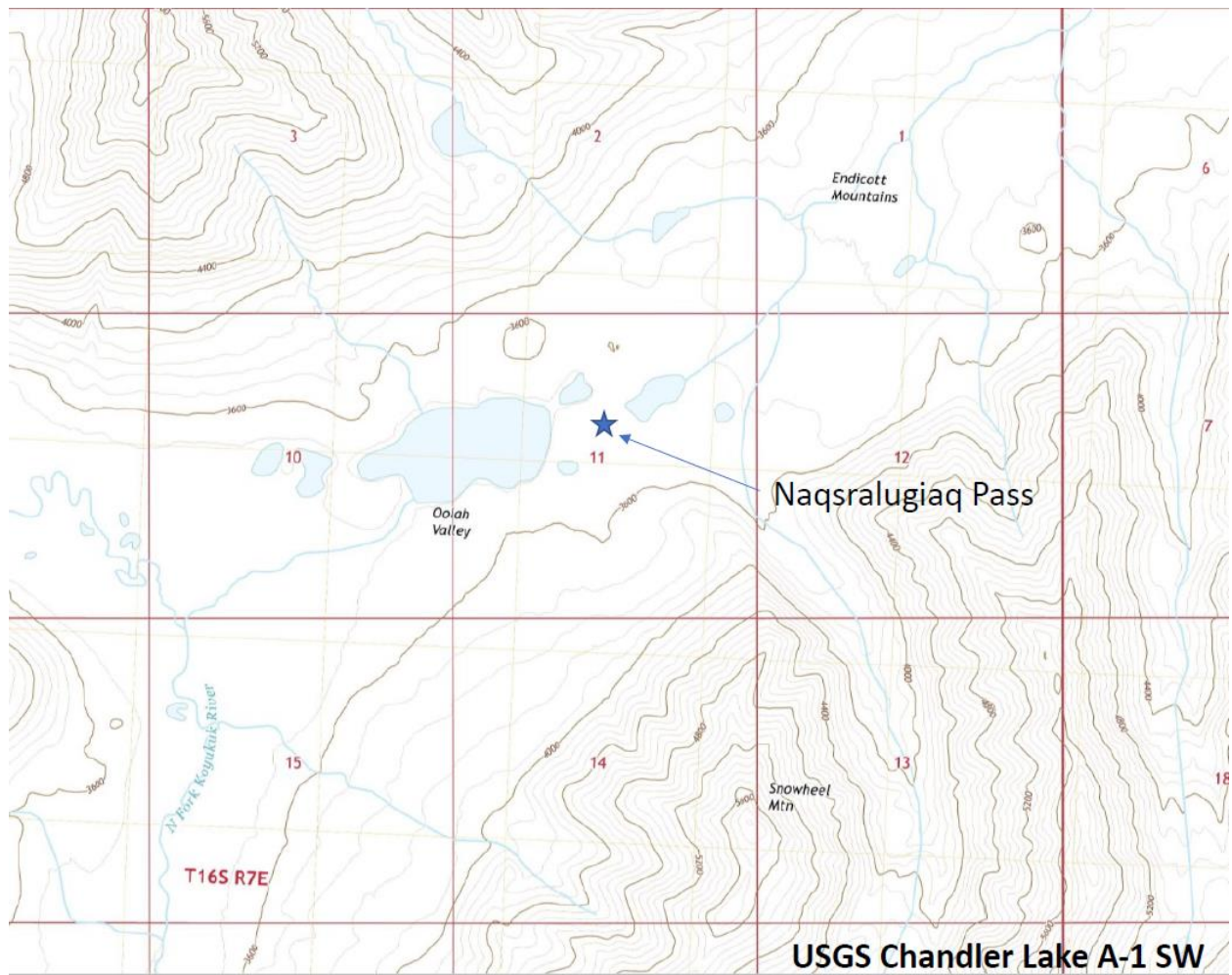
---

Requests for comments have been sent to:

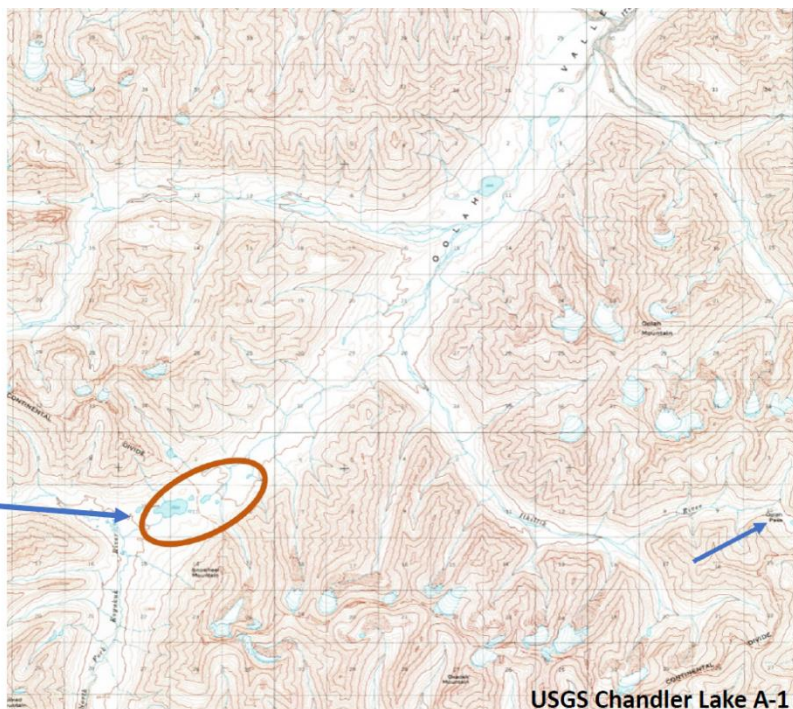
Anaktuvuk Pass City Council – replied to request for comments 04/14/2021: “I endorse the proposed name change because: It’s a traditional Nunamiut Inupiaq name.”

Simon Paneak Memorial Museum  
Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
Alaska Native Language Center  
North Slope Borough  
Iñupiat History Language and Culture Commission  
Nagsragmiut  
Nunamiut Corporation  
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation  
Arctic Sounder

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Jeff Rasic	Archaeologist	907-750-7356	
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
National Park Service	4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709		
Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Judith E. Bittner	SHPO	(907) 269-8700	
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology	550 West 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565		
Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area



Proposal area



USGS Chandler Lake A-1 Quadrangle



